



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 9

Meeting Date: 9/27/06
Meeting Location: Hendricks County Dept. of Child Services
6781 E US Hwy. 36, Avon, IN 46123

Council Members Present:

Barbara South, Steve Vaughn, Sally Wheat, Tim Miller, Lisa Johnson, Char Burkett-Sims

Council Members Absent:

Judge David, Judge Boles, Judge Headley, and Muriel Bayless

Guests Present:

Andrea Goodwin - Hendricks County DCS, Rodnee Barbee - Wernle, Pam Turner - Putnam County Youth Development and Community Youth Services Bureau, Michael Scine - Montgomery County Youth Services Bureau, Nikki Pickerel, Region 9 Community Partners for Child Services, Mike Haarer-White's Residential and Family Services, Lisa Plewa-Children's Bureau, Patty Harmless-Putnam County Youth Development Commission-CASA Director, and Norma Stewart-White's Family Services, Indianapolis Regional Office

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

1. Plan Development Process for Regional Service Council Strategic Plan

- Explored options for identifying and gathering information necessary to complete assessment.
- It was decided that it would be helpful to hire an outside consultant but there was concern that \$1000 might not be enough sufficient. The assessment would best be done by an individual who knows that communities. This job was estimated to take about 6 weeks or full-time work.
- There were concerns expressed that the time frame and funding was insufficient to complete a comprehensive plan by the end of the year. It was noted that there are existing studies that might be used but none that focus solely on child abuse or neglect. However, poverty was identified as a primary issue that impacts abuse and neglect.
- A suggestion was made that each county office facilitate a one day meeting with providers in the community to determine issues/needs related to abuse/neglect and collect available data.
- Other suggestions included:
 - The development of core questions that would be addressed consistently across each community.

- Make it clear that the needs of the community are very comprehensive, but DCS is focusing on issues related to child abuse or neglect, however, one of the primary issues in our population starts with poverty.
- Think about partners in the community as well as existing studies that could be accessed to compile data and questions in preparation for this plan.

2. Update regarding Partners for Community Safety:

- Nikki Pickerel, Director, sent out invitations to community members to attend a meeting on 10-06 -06 at 10:00 AM at Hendricks Regional Conference Rm. #1 to provide information about the program.
- Additional community members from Hendricks County would be helpful.
- A copy of the power point presentation was presented.
- It was presented that the role of Children's Bureau's role is to facilitate the development of a network of services and how the process might work in a community.
- This network will serve to identify and provide for service gaps as well as facilitate coordination of existing services.
- There was discussion about the referral process and protection of confidentiality.

3. Presentation of Funding Proposals for Putnam County:

- Pam Turner from the Putnam County Youth Development Commission presented a funding proposal for Parenting and Youth Education Classes
 - Total program cost is \$4800 with unit cost of \$200 per Family
 - These services are offered to prevent abuse or neglect from occurring, targeted to an at-risk population
 - The program is a four week series of Parenting and Youth Education classes
 - The curriculum is based on activities to facilitate interactions and skill building between parent and youth.
 - The goal of this program is to improve child/parent/family relationships
 - The Council members met in closed session to determine whether to fund the program. It was concluded at a unanimous vote to approve funding for this program.
 - Absentee support was provided by Judge Headley in writing.
- Barbara South, Director of Putnam Co. DCS presented a funding proposal for the GRASP program in Putnam County
 - Total program request proposed was \$4999
 - An itemized list was provided on how the grant funds will be used
 - The program is an alternative education program for expelled or suspended services
 - A vote was not taken on this proposal as there was not a quorum.
 - Barbara will return the proposal during the next meeting.

Next Meeting**Date:** 10-25-06**Location:** Hendricks Co. Department of Child Services, 6181 E. US Hwy. 36,
Avon, IN 46123**Time:** 9:00 AM**Meeting was concluded at 11:02 AM**